

Department of the Treasury

Industry Circular



Internal Revenue Service
Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division
Washington, D.C. 20224

Industry Circular No. 71-26

November 12, 1971

**EXPERIMENTAL PACKAGING AND MARKETING OF
DISTILLED SPIRITS IN PVC PLASTIC LIQUOR
BOTTLES AND NON-RIGID MINIATURE CONTAINERS**

Proprietors of Distilled Spirits Plants,
Manufacturers of Liquor Bottles,
Importers, Wholesale Liquor Dealers
and Others Concerned:

In Industry Circular 71-20, we requested final comments from participating bottlers and others concerned with respect to the experimental bottling of distilled spirits in polyvinyl chloride plastic bottles and non-rigid miniature containers. At that time we had expected to review all the information before us and make a final decision by November 15, 1971, concerning the suitability of such containers for use in bottling distilled spirits.

Since the issuance of Industry Circular 71-20, it has been determined that sufficient concern has been expressed with regard to the possible environmental effects of PVC plastic to warrant the issuance of an environmental statement as required by Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Briefly, it is now proposed to include in the environmental statement a detailed description of (1) the proposed action, (2) its probable impact on the environment, (3) its probable adverse effect on the environment, if any, (4) alternatives to the proposed action, (5) cumulative and long-term effects of the action, and (6) any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources which would be involved in the proposed action. A notice will be issued announcing the availability of a draft of the statement showing the locations where such statement will be on file for public viewing. The draft environmental statement will be revised, as appropriate, to reflect comments received or other considerations coming to our attention before being put into final form. A final statement will be issued and distributed in the same manner as the draft statement. Interested persons may obtain copies of the draft and of the final statement from the National Technical Information Service, U.S. Department of Commerce, Springfield, Virginia 22151, as soon as notice of availability is announced.

The final decision on PVC plastic liquor bottles may not be made until at least 90 days from the issuance of the draft statement or 30 days from the issuance of the final statement, whichever is later. In view of the time involved, we are extending the experimental bottling mentioned in paragraph one for six months. Accordingly, applications previously approved or extended under Industry Circular 70-9, 70-33 or 70-34 are hereby extended to June 30, 1972.

Inquiries concerning this Circular should be addressed to the Director.

Rex D. Davis, Director
Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Division